

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

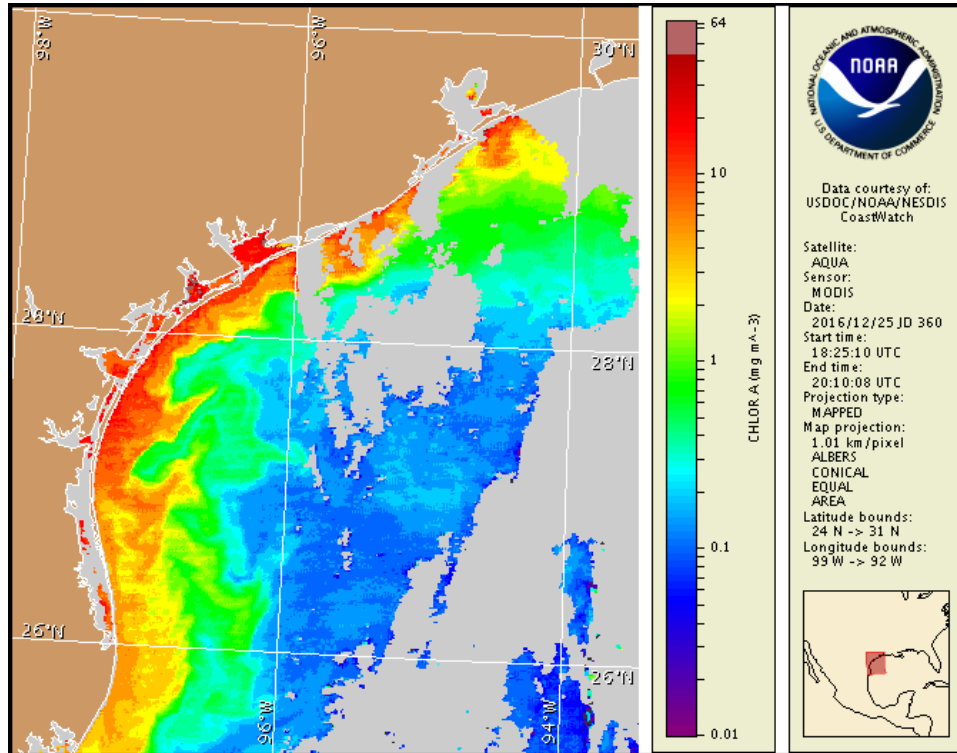
Tuesday, 27 December 2016

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, December 19, 2016



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from December 17 to 22: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_publication/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/enviroconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to very low concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore Texas Tuesday, December 27 through Tuesday, January 3.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

Analysis

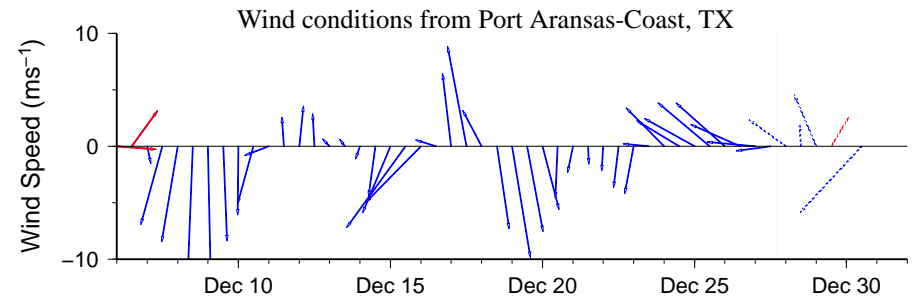
****Due to the upcoming federal holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, January 3.****

Sampling from the Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot, located on the Port Aransas ship channel, indicates that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between 'not present' and 'very low a' (TAMU; 12/20-12/27). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 12/25; shown left) shows elevated to high (3-12 $\mu\text{g/L}$) levels of chlorophyll with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* along- and offshore the Texas coast from Matagorda Bay to south of the Rio Grande.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 30 km south from the Port Aransas region from December 25-30.

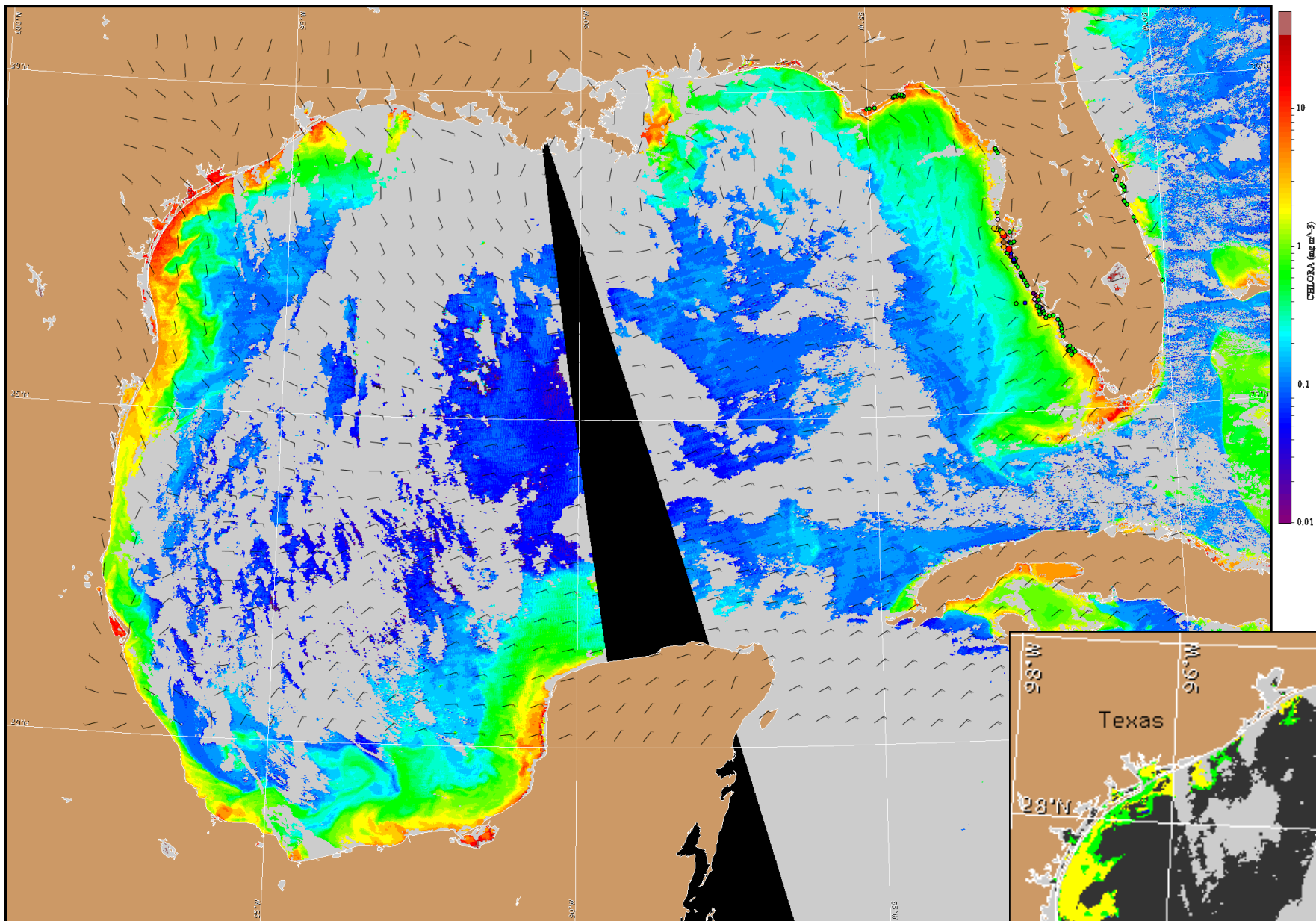
Urizar, Davis



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

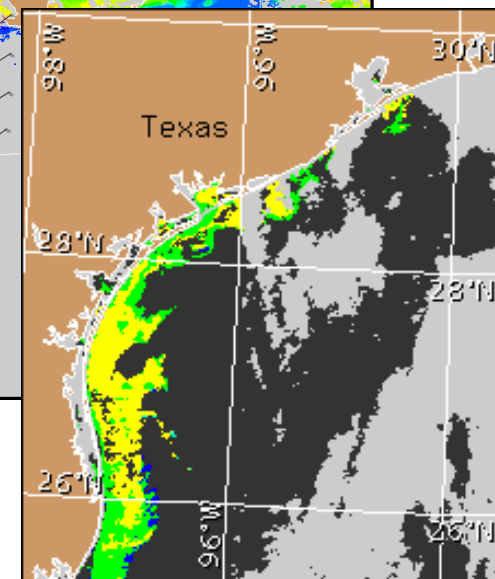
Wind Analysis

Port Aransas to Matagorda Ship Channel: East winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) today. South to southwest winds (5 kn, 3 m/s) Wednesday. Northwest to northeast winds (15-25 kn, 8-13 m/s) Thursday. Northeast to southeast winds (10-20 kn, 5-10 m/s) Friday. South winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) Saturday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 28, 2016 12Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from December 17 to 22: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).